

Thunderstorm season is approaching...are you ready?

The National Weather Service wants everyone to be part of a Weather Ready Nation. Colorado is an annual host for tornadoes...flash floods... tornadoes...damaging hail...killer lightning...and wind damage. Are you weather ready...now is the time to make sure you know how to stay safe when severe weather threatens. This week...April 12th to 18th is Colorado Severe Weather Preparedness Week.

Each year for the past 20 years there have been an average of 50 tornadoes in Colorado...3 people are killed by lightning...and other 13 people are injured by lightning. Some of the biggest insurance losses each year are due to large hail.

The National Weather Service offices which cover Colorado will issue a series of public information statements during the week covering the following topics:

- ...On Monday...watches and warnings
- ...On Tuesday...tornadoes and tornado safety
- ...On Wednesday...flood and flash flood safety
- ...On Thursday...downburst wind and hail
- ...On Friday...lightning and lightning safety
- ...On Saturday...a review of the week

Warnings are issued by the National Weather Service for a variety of thunderstorm hazards. Make sure you have a way to receive warnings. If you live in a community with a siren...understand the protocol for sounding those sirens. If you have a relatively new cell phone you will receive tornado and flash flood warnings on your phone if you are in the area of the warning. NOAA Weather Radios are another great way to monitor the weather and receive warnings...and they can be found at most hardware or electronics stores.

Safety information...watches...warnings...forecasts...current conditions...radar...and much more information is available at your local National Weather Service Web sites:

www.weather.gov/boulder	NWS Boulder web site
www.weather.gov/pueblo	NWS Pueblo web site
www.weather.gov/goodland	NWS Goodland web site
www.weather.gov/gjt	NWS Grand Junction web site